6(no.) LR-I size Product Tankers

(c) and (d) Major Shipyards all over the world have full order book position till 2008. Hence, delivery of vessels can be expected only during 2009 or later, if order is placed now. SCI prefers to acquire new building tonnage. However, acquisition of second-hand vessel or in-chartering of suitable vessels is considered in case the situation demands so and SCI's own tonnage is not available.

Opening of motor driving schools

†3846. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open Government Driving Schools with a view to strengthen the road safety in the country and to develop the safe driving habit;

(b) if so, the details thereof location-wise; and

(c) the details of Government's strategy in this regard and the effective steps being taken by Government to implement this policy in the public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) The Ministry has a Plan Scheme under which financial assistance for setting up of model driving training school to States/UTs/Non-Governmental Organisations is provided. The beneficiary has to provide land free from all encumbrances and to bear operation & maintenance costs.

So for assistance for setting up of eight Model Driving Training Schools has been sanctioned, in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, West Bengal, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala and Uttaranchal. Central Institute of Road Transport has been entrusted with job of rendering technical assistance, supervision and monitoring under the scheme.

Ship building hubs in Kochi

3847. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up two ship building hubs in Kochi contiguous with the sepcial economic zone proposed on land owned by Cochin Port Trust;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details including the fund to be earmarked and the steps taken to fulfill the proposal;

(c) whether there is any proposal for additional infrastructure creation in Cochin Shipyard for the creation of a green field international class shipyard; and

(d) if so, the details including the steps taken for finalizing the proposal and the fund allotted or to be allotted for the above purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Government is exploring the possibility of additional infrastrcutre creation in Cochin Shipyard and creation of an international size Greenfield Shipyard, subject to positive technical analysis and feasibility study.

Capital Subsidy Scheme for SSIs

3848. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced a Capital Subsidy Scheme for small scale industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the category of industries which are eligible under the scheme; and

(d) whether it is proposed to increase the quantum of subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government in the Ministry of Small Scale Industries (SSI) has been operating a scheme for technology upgradation called the Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (CLCSS) since October 1, 2000. The Scheme aims at facilitating technology upgradation by providing 12% upfront capital subsidy to SSI units, including agro & rural industry units, on institutional finance (credit) availed of by them for modernisation of their production techniques, in 44 specified products/sub-sectors. The maxium amount of loan eligible for support under this scheme is Rs. 40 lakh and the eligible subsidy is based on the actual loan amount or the ceiling of loan, whichever is lower. The Scheme is